

Subregio guineensis.—Peculiar genus 1. Peculiar species 7: *Platystira cyanea*, *P. albifrons*, *Batis senegalensis*, *B. minima*, *Diaphorophya castanea*, *D. blissetti*, *D. concreta*.

Subregio madagascariensis.—*P. molitor* is stated to have been met with on the West Coast by Bojer in 1829, but has never been obtained since.

XXI.—On an apparently new Species of Hornbill from Angola.

By D. G. ELLIOT, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

BUCEROS SHARPII.

Bill without casque, but the maxilla swollen into a prominent ridge, broad and corrugated at the base, becoming narrow at the anterior portion, and gradually falling into the outline of the culmen. The base, which ends abruptly about half an inch above the head, has four rather deep plaits. The mandible is rugged and creased nearly to the end, with the cutting portion serrated. The culmen and tips of bill yellowish horn-colour; a broad stripe for about two thirds the length of the maxilla and nearly all the mandible (save the tip above mentioned) black. Base of maxilla beneath the nostril, and spot on base of mandible, yellowish white.

Head covered with a long crest; feathers of cheeks and throat also long and loose; all these parts, together with the back, black, with a bright greenish lustre. Primaries black. Secondaries, with the exception of the three innermost ones, white for three fourths their entire length, greenish black at base; the innermost ones same colour as the back. Under wing-coverts, lower part of breast, under tail-coverts, rump, and legs pure white. Tail—the two median feathers black for their entire length, without any white; the ones next to the median on either side white from half their length from the tip, remaining portion like the central ones; the lateral feathers pure white for their entire length, with the exception of the outermost ones, which have the basal half of the outer webs black. Total length 21 inches, wing 11, tail $9\frac{1}{4}$.

The above description is taken from an adult male specimen

from Angola in the collection of Mr. R. B. Sharpe, who kindly placed it in my hands for examination and description; and I have much pleasure in bestowing his name upon this species, as a mark of esteem, as well as in recognition of the valuable services he has rendered to ornithology.

In the collection of the British Museum are two specimens of *B. sharpii*, from the Gaboon and Congo respectively. One I judge to be an adult male; and it differs from the specimen just described by having the entire bill yellowish white, with only a trace of black on the central portion of the maxilla near the cutting-edge, and tending upwards in the direction of the base, but not reaching the nostril. The tail is like that of the type; but the outer feathers are entirely white, only the central ones and those immediately succeeding having any black upon them. This specimen is from the Gaboon.

The third example, from the Congo, is perhaps a female. It is much smaller than the others; the mandible is only slightly ridged, with a few black spots where the ridges are found in the other two specimens; the upper portion of the maxilla near the base black. The feathers of the tail are coloured like those of the Gaboon bird, save a black spot that is seen upon all, near the base, but not reaching to it.

Buceros sharpii belongs to a very well-marked group of the great family Bucerotidæ, to which the term *Bycanistes*, Cabanis, has been applied, and contains, so far as is known, six species, including the present one. Although in their general appearance all the species closely resemble each other, yet each presents sufficient characters to distinguish it easily from its relatives.

The largest is

1. *B. CRISTATUS*, Rüppell, from Abyssinia; distinguished by having the wings entirely black, the tail black, with the exception of the extreme base and an apical band, which are white; a spotted crest and enormous casque.

2. *B. CYLINDRICUS*, Temm. West Africa. Resembles the first but is smaller; crest unspotted; secondaries pure white

from one-third their length from the tips, and the tail also white with a broad black band nearly in the centre.

3. *B. SUBCYLINDRICUS*, Selater. Western Africa? Resembles *B. cylindricus*, but has fully one half of the secondaries white, crest spotted, and median tail-feathers black for their entire length.

4. *B. BUCCINATOR*, Temm. South Africa. Crest slightly spotted. Secondaries black tipped with white; and tail-feathers, except median, also white for about an inch and a half from the tip. All these four species have high casques in both sexes, those of the males projecting forward in a point nearly the entire length of the maxilla.

I should place next, as being slightly larger in size, the

5. *B. SHARPII*, Elliot. Gaboon to Angola, West Africa. Bill strongly ridged on the culmen at base. Secondaries, excepting the three outermost ones, pure white. Tail pure white, with the exception of the median feathers, which are black, and the ones next to them, which have their bases also black.

6. *B. FISTULATOR*, Cassin. Fantee. Tail black, a narrow line at the base and the lateral feathers tipped with white. Secondaries black, except for about an inch and a half from their ends, which is white.

XXII.—*Note on Homochlamys lusciniæ, Salvad.*

By T. SALVADORI, C.M.Z.S.

AMONG some birds which the Count Turati, of Milan, has sent me lately, I found a specimen of *Calamoherpe canturiens*, Swinh. The name was written on the label in Mr. Swinhoe's handwriting, so that I think there can be no mistake in the exact determination of the specimen, which at the first sight I recognized to belong to my *Homochlamys lusciniæ*. The only difference is in the colour of the bill, which in Swinhoe's specimen is of a horny brownish, while in mine it is yellowish. This is of small moment, as in dried specimens kept for a